



ACCOUNTABILITY FOR SCHOOL WELLNESS POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Minimum School Wellness Policy Requirements (*Set the Direction*)

(Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004)

- (1) Policy must be developed with involvement from the school board, school administrators, school food service representatives, students, parents and the public.
- (2) Policy must include goals for nutrition education, physical activity and other school-based activities that are designed to promote student wellness in a manner that the local school district determines is appropriate.
- (3) Policy must include nutrition guidelines selected by the school district for all foods available on each school campus in the district during the school day, with the objective of promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity.
- (4) The policy must provide an assurance that guidelines for reimbursable school meals shall not be less restrictive than regulations and guidance issued by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, as applicable to schools.
- (5) **The policy must establish a PLAN FOR MEASURING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LOCAL WELLNESS POLICY.**

Clarify Oversight Responsibilities (*Establish the Structure and Ensure Accountability*)

- Identify one or more individuals within the district or at each school, as appropriate, charged with operational responsibility for ensuring policy compliance. (required by federal law)
 - local district option
 - choose people who have the authority and capacity to get things done
- Assign and clarify responsibilities related to:
 - policy implementation (action planning)
 - monitoring compliance
 - reporting compliance
 - evaluating policy effectiveness

(over)

Provide Support for Carrying Out School Wellness Policy and Plans (*Provide Support*)

- Identify and make available resources that could be used in carrying out district policy and plans (financial, staff, student, community)

Inform People About School Wellness Policy and Build Support (*Act as Community Leaders*)

- Stress the benefits of the policy
- Translate policy into "user friendly" language
- Use a mix of communication strategies

Review Wellness Policy Implementation and Effectiveness (*Ensure Accountability*)

- Does the policy continue to meet community needs, interests and requirements and reflect current district views on the subject?
- Does the policy provide clear guidance?
- Is the policy consistent with legal requirements, other district policies and current district practice?
- Is the policy able to be implemented using available staff and other resources?
- Is the policy being carried out consistently throughout the district?
- Is the policy accomplishing its purpose?

If the answer to any of these questions is "NO", the policy may need to be revised or additional support from the board may need to be provided.